1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
27.	Tamil Nadu	70	57	4	2	0	4	3
28.	Tripura	114	107	2	2	1	1	1
29.	West Bengal	14	7	3	0	2	0	2
30.	Uttar Pradesh	125	94	7	14	6	2	2
31.	Uttaranchal	1024	844	50	13	55	12	50
	TOTAL	4616	3230	329	232	167	155	503

Eviction from forest land

1078. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the forest coverage and action taken to restore the required forest cover in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the present eviction is specific to the forest land of Assam only or is a part of National Policy implementation;

(c) the data relating to eviction drive in other States;

(d) the factual position of eviction circulars and other bans imposed, including applicability of specific directions of Supreme Court, indicating date of order and implementation status, State-wise, till June, 2002; and

(e) the encroachment and eviction status in wild life sanctuaries, including Kaziranga National Park of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Forest Survey of India is assessing Forest Cover of the country biennially since 1987. The State-wise information on forest cover is given in Statement-I (*See* below). Various measures taken to increase the forest cover are:

(i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State Governments/ UT Administrations from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.

(ii) Externally aided projects are being implemented for development and preservation of forest Guidelines have been issued to all States/UTs to involve village communities in the protection and regeneration of degraded forests.

(iii) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes.

(iv) A network of protected areas has been established.

(v) Ministry of Environment and Forests has prepared a National Forestry Action Programme to enhance the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered development through increased investments in conservation and development of forest resources.

(b) Eviction of encroachment from forest land is in conformity with the national policy.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has issued instructions to the States/Union Territories from time to time and particularly on 18.09.1990 and 03.05.2002 for taking up eviction of encroachers in conformity with national policy and in compliance with the directives of Supreme Court dated 11.04.2002 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995. The information relating to eviction status and implementation of instructions is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) The information is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise forest cover as per State of Forest Report, 1999

State/UT	Total forest Cover (sq. km.)
Andhra Pradesh	44,229
Arunachal Pradesh	68,847
Assam	23,688
Bihar	4,830
Chhattisgarh	56,696
Delhi	88
Goa	1,251
Gujarat	12,965
Haryana	964
Himachal Pradesh	13,082

State/UT	Total forest Cover (sq. km.)
Jammu & Kashmir	20,441
Jharkhand	21,644
Karnataka	32,467
Kerala	10,323
Madhya Pradesh	75,137
Maharashtra	46,672
Manipur	17,384
Meghalaya	15,633
Mizoram	18,338
Nagaland	14,164
Orissa	47,033
Punjab	1,412
Rajasthan	13,871
Sikkim	3,118
Tamil Nadu	17,078
Tripura	5,745
Uttaranchal	23,260
Uttar Pradesh	10,756
West Bengal	8,362
A&N Island	7,606
Chandigarh	7
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	202
Daman & Diu	3
Lakshadweep	0
Pondicherry	0
TOTAL	637,293

Statement-II

Encroachments in National Parks and Sanctuaries and Reserve Forests

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Area encroached (in hect.)	No. of Families	Action taken by the Govt.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22449.73	9010	Encroachers evicted Charge sheets filed in the court.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1029.26	378	Legal proceedings launched against the encroachers
3.	Assam including Kaziranga National Park	589840	423393	17000 hectares evicted.
4.	Bihar	287.29	1238	Cases lodged against persons responsible for encroachment under Indian Forest Act and under Bihar Public Land encroachment Act.
5.	Goa	Nil	Nil	
6.	Gujarat	36314.54	23047	Action taken under India Forest Act 1927 to evict the encroachers.
7.	Haryana	69.04	58	40 hectare have been evicted from 20 families and in rest of the cases. Legal action taken against other offendrs.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3,4533	17	Encroachers in four cases have been evicted and action taken in other cases.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Nil	
10.	Karnataka	5154.168	6630	196 hectare have been evicted. Action taken to evict the encroachers from the balance areas as per Section 64 A of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963.
11.	Kerala	65.1352 +50 meters of road	37	The encroachments were summarily evicted. Action taken against encorachers.
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4110.55	4293	Action taken against the

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Area encroached (in hectares)	No. of Families	Action taken by the Govt.
				encroachers under the provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927 WL(P), 1972.
13.	Maharashtra	12686.82	722	5023.9375 hectare have been evicted. Cases against others filed in the court.
14.	Manipur	25	63	The Hon'ble Guwahati High Court *vide* order dated 27.5.98 have directed the State Govt. to allot alternative land and not to evict the encroachers till such allotment is made.
15.	Meghalaya	30.25	115	Action taken to evict the encroachers
16.	Mizoram	11872.23	3882	Action taken to evict the encroachers
17.	Nagaland	700.75	571	Eviction of 25 cases had been carried out in 96-98. Action taken in rest of the cases.
18.	Orissa	359.48	302	Action taken to fire the cases in the court.
19.	Punjab	Nil	Nil	
20.	Rajasthan	3700.50	3834	Encroachments evicted from 283.333 hectare. Action taken against rest of the offenders.
21.	Sikkim	2.5	1	Legal action have been initiated.
22.	Tamil Nadu	1637.82	Not available	Legal action taken against the encroachers.
23.	Tripura	405.06	11023	Legal action taken to evict the encroachments.
24.	Uttar Pradesh	756.84	3522	Encroachments evicted from 406.90 hectare. Legal action taken against rest of the offenders.
25.	West Bengal	97.80	150	Encroachments evicted from 21.17 hectare. Legal action taken in rest of the cases.